

Implementation of QT Algorithm for the MTD Branch of the VPD qt32b_l0_v7_3.mcs

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Description:

This algorithm is identical to algorithm 6d, which is used by the BBC small-tile QT boards. The only difference is that in the final stage, on the motherboard, the L0 FPGA discards the ADC sum information and instead passes on 2 copies of the TAC MAX.

The part of the algorithm that is implemented in the daughter cards forms a 16bit ADC Sum and 12bit TAC Max. Only channels that satisfy a “good hit” requirement are included in the ADC Sum and TAC Max. A “good hit” is defined as one where the ADC value is greater than some threshold and the corresponding slew-corrected TAC value is greater than TAC_MIN and less than TAC_MAX. The channel mask register can be used but note that ADC and TAC channels must each be masked individually.

An outline of the steps followed by this algorithm is listed below, with details of each step described later in this section:

1. Slew Correct each TAC Channel
2. Apply channel masks
3. Check for overflow/underflow conditions
4. Apply “Good Hit” Requirement
5. Sum good ADC values and select largest TAC value

A slew correction is applied to each TAC channel based on the value of the corresponding ADC channel. In the current implementation, there are a maximum of eight ADC bins. The ADC bin limits for each TAC channel can be defined independently. The ADC bin limits must cover the full available range of ADC values [0:4095] and must not overlap. Therefore any ADC value falls into exactly one ADC bin. The determination of which bin an ADC value falls into is done using the following logic:

$$\text{Bin}(X) = \text{bin_limit}(X-1) < \text{ADC} \leq \text{bin_limit}(X)$$

Note that the lower limit of Bin(0) is hardwired to be 0, but the user has the ability to set all the other limits.

A slew correction offset is associated with each ADC bin of each channel. The slew correction offset is a signed integer with a range [-256:255]. The slew correction offset for this corresponding bin is then added to the raw TAC value. If the slew correction offsets are all set to 0 (the power-on default) then the slew correction is effectively turned off.

If the result of applying this correction is negative, a corrected TAC value of ‘0’ is used. If the result is greater than 4095, a corrected TAC value of ‘4095’ is used. This ensures that the slew-corrected TAC values have the same range as the raw TAC values (i.e. [0:4095]).

The standard QT mask registers can be used for each channel to mask out that channel from the trigger but retain the data in the data-stream. The channel masks are applied AFTER the slew correction. Separate masks must be used for ADC and TAC channels.

This algorithm then uses the standard “Good Hit” definition, which requires that the ADC value for a channel is greater than some **ADC_th** while the corresponding corrected TAC value is greater than some **TAC_Min** and less than some **TAC_Max**. The ADC values of the good hits are summed. The corrected TAC values of the good hits are sorted to select the largest. The results are delayed appropriately so they can then be combined with the information that has been passed down from the preceding QT8 daughter card, and the final results are passed on to the next daughter card in the chain or the L0 FPGA on the mother board.

The L0 FPGA discards the ADC sum and instead drives out 2 copies of the TAC MAX.

Inputs:

QT8A: 4 PMT ADC, 4 PMT TAC

QT8B: 4 PMT ADC, 4 PMT TAC

QT8C: 4 PMT ADC, 4 PMT TAC

QT8D: 4 PMT ADC, 4 PMT TAC

Registers (1 Set Per Daughter Card):

Alg. Reg. 0 (Reg 13): ADC_Threshold

Alg. Reg. 1 (Reg 14): TAC_MIN

Alg. Reg. 2 (Reg 15): TAC_MAX

Reg. 11: Channel Mask

LUT:

Timing adjustments/pedestal subtraction for each PMT

Algorithm Latch: 1 or 2**L0 Output to DSM:**

(0-11) : TAC Max

(12-15) : '0'

(16-27) : TAC Max

(28-31) : '0'

Actions:

Tick	QT8A	QT8B	QT8C	QT8D
1	Latch inputs	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
2	Find ADC bins for slew correction Delay ADC and TAC values	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
3	Calculate/Latch slew-corrected TAC values. Apply Channel_Mask	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
4	Overflow-Underflow mask corrected TAC values	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
5	ADC > R0 -> ADC_GOOD TAC > R1 -> TAC_MIN_GOOD TAC < R2 -> TAC_MAX_GOOD	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
6	Combine GOOD info -> GOOD hits Latch ADC/TAC for GOOD hits	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
7	Sum ADC: Ch0 + Ch 1 Sum ADC: Ch2 + Ch 3 Select TAC: Ch 4 vs Ch 5 Select TAC: Ch 6 vs Ch 7	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
8	Sum ADC: Add intermediate sums Select TAC: Select largest TAC	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A	Same as QT8A
9	Latch ADC sum and largest TAC	Delay counts and sums	Delay counts and sums	Delay counts and sums
10	Delay ADC sum and largest TAC	Delay	Delay	Delay
11	Latch out ADC and TAC info	Delay	Delay	Delay
12		Latch in ADC and TAC info from upstream QT8 Latch local ADC sum and largest TAC	Delay	Delay
13		Sum ADC: Local + Upstream Select TAC: Local + upstream	Delay	Delay
14		Latch out ADC and TAC info	Delay	Delay
15			Latch in ADC and TAC info from upstream QT8 Latch local ADC sum and largest TAC	Delay
16			Sum ADC: Local + Upstream Select TAC: Local + upstream	Delay
17			Latch out ADC and TAC info	Delay
18				Latch in ADC and TAC info from upstream QT8 Latch local ADC sum and largest TAC
19				Sum ADC: Local + Upstream Select TAC: Local + upstream
20				Latch out ADC and TAC info